## THE NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT, SURFACE WATER QUALITY BUREAU ON THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE STATEWIDE WATER OUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

## NOTICE OF A 60-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS FOR PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) invites the public to comment on draft revisions to the Statewide Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). The WQMP document is a statewide planning tool developed to ensure that long-range goals of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (a.k.a. Clean Water Act) are met. These goals include "restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nations waters." The WQMP establishes a process that assures continuous planning for and implementation of pollution control measures.

A series of meetings will be held to present a summary of proposed revisions and to field questions from the public. Meetings will be held as follows:

February 4, 2002: **Las Cruces, NM**. Water Resources Research Institute Conference Room, New Mexico State University Campus – Stucky Hall (S. Espina St.), 6:30-9:00 p. m.

February 5, 2002: **Roswell, NM**. Eastern New Mexico University Roswell Campus, Campus Union Building, Multi-purpose Room 110, 48 University Blvd, 6:30-9:00 p. m.

February 6, 2002: **Santa Fe, NM**. New Mexico Environment Department, Harold Runnels Bldg. Auditorium, 6:30-9:00 p. m.

February 7, 2002: Farmington, NM. Farmington Civic Center, Exhibition Hall, 6:30-9:00 p. m.

The 60 day comment period begins January 18, 2002 at 8:00 a.m. and will end March 19, 2002 at 5:00 p.m. MST. Formal comments for inclusion in the public record should be submitted to the SWQB in writing at the meetings or to the address below (if possible, please submit an electronic copy as well). The SWQB will approach the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (NMWQCC) at their regular monthly meeting, tentatively set for April 9, 2002, to request final review and approval of the WQMP, or to schedule a public hearing if warranted by the public participation process.

For more information, contact Glenn Saums, of the NMED SWQB, at P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87502 or by calling (505) 827-2827 or e-mail: <glenn\_saums@nmenv.state.nm.us>. The draft WQMP is available upon request and will be posted on the Surface Water Quality Bureau's website (by January 18), which can be found at: <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swqb/swqb.html>.

If you are an individual with a disability and you require assistance or an auxiliary aid (e.g. translator or sign-language interpreter) to participate in any aspect of this process, please contact Cliff Hawley by January 25, 2002, at the New Mexico Environment Department, 1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502, (505) 827-2850 (TDD or TDY users please access his number via the New Mexico Relay Network. Albuquerque TDD users: (505) 275-7333; outside of Albuquerque: 1-800-659-1779.)

PLEASE POST AND/OR FORWARD TO INTERESTED PARTIES